

# Prepared Speech Competition

*Sponsored by*

## Creative Strategies, Inc.



## 2014 SkillsUSA KY State Leadership Conference and Skills Championship



*Story and layout by Fran Dundon  
Photos courtesy of Tim Thornberry  
May 2014*



Competitors and partnerships once again provided the most important ingredients for the 2014 SkillsUSA KY state conference. This year, Creative Strategies Inc., one of Kentuckiana's most innovative companies within the healthcare industry, sponsored the Prepared Speech competition. Not only did the company make a \$1,000 donation, all the judges for the event were provided by Creative Strategies - which allowed competitors to be judged by industry professionals.

According to the company's website ( <http://www.creativestrategiesus.com/> ), "Creative Strategies uses the latest technology to design, develop, and implement technology solutions for clients in the healthcare, government, banking, and transaction-processing industries. Headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky as a subsidiary of Carroll-Kron Consulting, Inc., the company is a group of experienced consultants dedicated to solving customers' business challenges with technology-based solutions. President John Carroll is a nationally recognized management and technology consultant with more than 20 years' experience designing, developing, and managing government systems and private sector projects."

The donation resulted because of a recommendation made by Kristi Reeves, a former SkillsUSA KY State officer and current employee of the company.

"Industry partnerships are critical because of the impact it has on those coming through the pipeline into the workforce," said Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY B & I director. "We are always in need of leadership sponsorship and sincerely thank John Carroll for supporting our conference. And, on a personal note - it's refreshing to see one of our own doing so well in the world of work."



*Photo: John Carroll, Creative Strategies president (l) and Kristi Reeves, administrative assistant (far right), are recognized by Fran Dundon on stage for sponsoring "Prepared Speech" at this year's state conference.*

*Reeves:*

*"SkillsUSA KY has always been a true passion for me. Starting a new partnership between Creative Strategies and SkillsUSA KY helped me reach a milestone in my career.*

*"Nothing but positive feedback was bought back to the company from heartfelt speeches by our future workforce."*





*Mike Kindred, Principal  
Clark Co. ATC:*

*“We all thank  
Creative Strategies, Inc.  
for their outstanding  
financial and service  
support because we  
know how much  
difference this makes in  
our state conference.*

*“The experienced  
individuals who are  
investing time by  
judging and helping our  
SkillsUSA competitors  
are to be commended.  
Thank you.”*

*Not pictured: 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner  
Madison Moxley, Paducah ATC.*



*Clark Co. ATC student Bradley Shimfessel  
accepts first place prize package for fellow  
classmate Taylor Evans. Kristi Reeves was  
on hand to present prizes to the winners.*



*2<sup>nd</sup> place winner Taylor Tomlin, Eastside  
Technical Center poses with Reeves.*

*Ray Stanley, principal  
Eastside Technical Center:*

*“We appreciate the efforts of Kristi  
Reeves and Creative Strategies for  
sponsoring this event. Leadership  
development is an important part of  
SkillsUSA and we are pleased Mr.  
Carroll understands the value of  
developing personal skills needed in  
today’s workforce.”*